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GRAD newsletter

Published by Graduate Students Association of Concordia University

ELECTION RESULTS

I am pleased to announce the results of the 1975-76 G.S.A. General Election:

Executive Positions

President	Richard Hahn	acclaimed
Vice President	K. S. Thyagarajan	acclaimed
Secretary Treasurer	Guy Ouellet	acclaimed

Representative Positions

Engineering Rep.	Omair Ahmad	acclaimed
Commerce Rep.	---	vacant
Arts Rep.	---	vacant
Science Rep.	---	vacant

As per the G.S.A. Constitution, applications are invited for the vacant positions.

George Proussaefs
Chief Returning Officer

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

State of the Union

It is now approaching one year since I took office. The year has been exciting, frustrating, interesting, informative and my duties have been time consuming. After establishing this newsletter and thus opening communication between you and your association a major problem has become apparent. With 550 full time grad students and 1050 part-time grad students the association is continually seeking volunteers to represent the grad students interests on the decision making bodies of the University.

The problem is then how to generate your interest in your association. Unlike other students associations at Concordia we don't offer you Honoraria or paid tuition - apart from an occasional council dinner there is no remuneration for your efforts. The great majority of us work full-time and have family responsibilities. Unfortunately the demands placed on the association do not

recognize these other responsibilities. Apart from finding "bodies" to sit on the various University boards and councils, the association would like the input of a broader range of students.

To solve this problem discussions were entered into with the Dean of Graduate Studies. In the past the Dean required each Graduate Program Director and each Diploma Program Director to hold class elections and submit a student representative for each Program. The coming academic year will see a revitalization of the Dean's Grad Student Advisory Committee but with one major change - each student program representative will also have a formal status on the Grad Students' Association Council.

In order to cope with the increasing demands placed on your volunteer executive and with the improved program envisioned for 1975-76, I feel that the interests of the G.S.A. would be better served if we were to make available to you a part-time administrative assistant.

I look forward to serving you again in the 1975-76 year, and would like to take this opportunity to wish you all good luck in your exams and with your theses and dissertations.

R. Richard Hahn
President

SECOND MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Student Services (Cont'd)

At our last annual meeting you - the Grad Students made it clear to my predecessor Nick Calinoiu, that you were concerned about the increase in Student Services fees (from $38 to $50 for full-time students and from $8 to $10 for part-time students). I continued to present this view to the Board of Governors on taking office but was unable to obtain support for Grad Students from the administration, the faculty, the outside representatives or from other student representatives on the board.

It has become patently clear that the only tools which will convince the Board of Governors are facts and your council has devoted a great deal of time to the attached questionnaire. Please fill it out.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Oops! We forgot to include the questionnaire with the November Newsletter! However, due to a shake up (or is it a shake down?) in our quality control department we are making sure that each and every grad student receives on this time.

The attached questionnaire is designed to determine what services graduate students use, which services are presently available and which should be. It is also designed to analyse the present fee structure and its adaptability to graduate students' use of student services.

Why should you fill this out?

BECAUSE grad students contribute the following fees to student services:

Full time grad student $50 x 550 equals $27,500
Part time grad student $10 x 1650 equals $16,500

Your association would like to know what services are presently being provided for you for this $44,000.

PLEASE fill out the attached QUESTIONNAIRE and give it to your professor to put into the internal mail (internal address is S-306).

You know what services you use, please let us know.

OBITUARY

The Grad magazine "IBIS" was recently pronounced dead. Lack of an editor and lack of interest on the part of grad students in submitting articles were cited as the primary causes of death.

WOULD YOU BELIEVE, A NEW BUILDING?

Yes indeed! In 1980, Concordia may have a new building which would include a Grad Students Centre including G.S.A. offices and Grad Student lounges and facilities adjacent to the offices of the Dean of Grad Studies. Gordan Boast is your representative on a newly established permanent committee on the new building.

PARTY TIME

At least it was - in December the engineering students were treated to a reception by their representative - Nick Caliniou - a good time was had by all.

HAPPY HOUR FOR GRADS

Following discussions with Neil Brown, President of the McGill Post Graduate Students' Society a proposal the G.S.A. has set in motion plans to initiate a Friday afternnon "happy hour" modeled on the successfull McGill P.G.S.S. "institution".

PROPER WELCOME FOR NEW STUDENTS

The G.S.A. will be including a letter with letters of acceptance issued by the Dean of Grad Studies Officer introducing the association and inviting all new grad students to the G.S.A. orientation part - Friday, September 19, 1975. Hope to see you there too.

G.S.A. JOCK

Mike Moore, a graduate student at Sir George was one of the few bright spots for the Georgian Basketball team at Waterloo. He tossed in 30 points and earned a spot on the All Star team. Congratulations, Mike!

WE'RE GETTING PLUGGED IN AGAIN!

The G.S.A. recently joined the Union Québec des Gradués and our delegate to the association Danielle Scheier was named to this year's Union Québec des Gradués executive. The annual meeting was held Saturday, Feb. 21 and Québec grad student representatives met with the Dean's of Grad Studies of all Québec Universities as well as the Deputy Minister of Education of Québec. The Government representatives assured us that they are anxious to work with grad students and Deans on a task force to change the structure of aid to grad students. A student proposal of $8,000 salaries for Québec Grad Students was rejected by the Government reps., but the principle of support for grad studies was clearly seen as a government priority.

The G.S.A. through its participation in Union Québec des Gradués is also plugged into the Canadian Graduate Student experience. A Union Québec des Gradués representative will be attending a "summit meeting" of the Canadian Union of Grad Students (C.U.G.S.) to determine the future of C.U.G.S.

NEC REPORT

Richard Hahn was the Concordia University Graduate delegate (and the only Quebec University delegate) to the NEC National Convention in Washington D.C. from February 8 - 12, 1975. More than 2,000 students and staff representatives from colleges and Universities attended. They met with more than 500 representatives of 250 firms offering talent, services, programs or products of interest

to students. The convention activities included 90 educational sessions on topics covering the areas of art and exhibits, contemporary and classical music, film, lecture, theatre, dance, outdoor recreation, and travel. Speaking at the convention were Redd Fox, Jeb Stuart Magruder, and Bob Hope who received the "Comedian of the Century" award. Mr. Gerald Ford - President of the United States dropped by to congratulate Mr. Hope.

The NEC Convention was also the site of discussions to bring into being the "Canadian Programming Conference" to be affiliated with the NEC. Richard Hahn was appointed Quebec representative to the "CPC". The Quebec government was represented at the convention and discussions were held in order to elicit government support for the fledgling Canadian organization.

MEETING WITH LOYOLA EVENING STUDENT COUNCIL

Following the NEC Conference Richard Hahn met with the Loyola Evening Students Council to generate support for the "Canadian Programming Conference". Topics discussed centered on the similarity of interests between the Concordia evening students and many of our graduate students. Ways of working together to generate joint programs were discussed. Possible programs included Saturday morning childrens' movies, a family "mystery bus ride", a "banana split eating" marathon and a Jello "play-in" on the Sir George Campus Concourse.

WANNA TAKE OFF?

At the NEC Conference, representatives from the U.S. firms specializing in student travel were interested to find a lack of travel programs for students at Concordia and in Quebec in general. Would you believe 2 weeks in Jamaica including Hotel and return air fare would cost $350. We're willing to help you take off if you think we should support such organizations.

THERE'S METHOD IN OUR MESSAGE MACHINE

The G.S.A. telephone number remains 879-7219. When the executives are not around a machine is used to take your message. Please feel free to leave the message with the machine - it won't bite you, neither will it eat the message. How can we call you back to help you with your problems if you won't leave your name and number?

MORE GRAD STUDENT REPRESENTATION ON SENATE

Mel Burtt has initiated the process to increase grad student representation on Senate to two members. The Dean of Grad Studies Stanely French has notified us that this new position is practically a "fait accompli". Thanks Mel!

POOR DENIS HEALY

The Healy Canada Council Commission which was formed to look into grad studies in the humanities and social sciences in Canada has not found grad support at Concordia. Despite promptings from the commission, the Concordia administration (from the man who is writing a brief for the administration) and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and a plea in our last newsletter for an interested grad student to look into the problem and prepare a brief for us - your G.S.A. remains without its brief.

OPEN LETTER

Dear Graduate Students:

The Executive Council of the Graduate Students' Association is very pleased to have this Newsletter to communicate with the members of the Association. In turn it is hoped that this Newsletter will be utilized as a forum for the views of graduate students on the important issues which concern us. In the coming year a number of these Newsletters will be published and mailed to each graduate students' home.

Although it is not the policy of the Executive Council of the Association to recommend any products or services to the graduate student body. It should be noted that the International Life Insurance Company has expressed an interest in the problems of graduate students of Concordia for which your Executive is most grateful. The interest of this company in students at Sir George is not new. In the past International Life have offered their special students package to both the Evening Students and Day Students. We would certainly hope that if any graduate students are considering buying insurance that you seriously consider the enclosed plan offered by the International Life Insurance Company.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Hahn, President
per Graduate Students' Association Council

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM

Due to unavoidable circumstances the G.S.A. Council was unfortunately unable to hold its general elections within the delays imposed by the Constitution.

In order to correct the situation, the President went before the Board of Governors seeking approval for a postponement (for 1975 only) of the following:

1) The General Election - from "the last two weeks of February" to between February 1st and March 15th".
2) The Council Changeover- from"March 15th" to "June 1st".
3) The Annual General Meeting - from "the first two weeks of February" to any time during the academic year when the financial reports of the previous year can be presented and approved."

Therefore, in compliance with the G.S.A. Constitution, a referendum is hereby declared.

George Proussaefs
Chief Returning Officer

THIS IS YOUR OFFICIAL REFERENDUM BALLOT

You may fill it in and A) drop it in a box at the Annual Meeting on April 4, 1975,
B) drop it off at the G.S.A. offices, or
C) mail it to the G.S.A., not later than April 4, 1975.

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1. For 1974-75 only: Approval of changes approved by the Board of Governors as outlined above.

YES ___ NO ___

2. PERMANENT CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES
   a) approval of the above mentioned changes
   b) change in title to "Concordia University Graduate Students' Association",
   c) addition of Fine Arts Representatives to G.S.A. Council,
   d) final approval for fee changes to be given to G.S.A. student body.

YES ___ NO ___

For your information the Financial Report of the G.S.A. will be presented at the Annual Meeting on April 4th.

ANNUAL MEETING

DATE: Friday, April 4th, 1975

TIME: 7:45 p.m.

PLACE: Hall Building - Room 937

All graduate students are cordially invited to an evening of stimulating entertainment.

Your COUNCIL will REPORT its activities of the past year and their plans for the future.

The GUEST SPEAKER for the evening will be GEORGE GALLUP, president of the GALLUP POLL.

Following his talk there will be a WINE and CHEESE reception for all graduate students.

About GEORGE GALLUP

Anyone who has ever read or heard of the Gallup Poll has probably wondered whether there actually was a Mr. Gallup. Well, the man who has become a myth in his own time, does in fact exist. You will all have an opportunity to hear him speak and answer all your questions on such things as:

- how he measures public opinion
- why he feels this is necessary
- his views for the future from present trends
- the role of the public in a democracy.

In short - Everything You Always Wanted to Know About What You Think, but didn't know who to ask.

Undoubtedly the foremost public opinion expert in the world, Mr. Gallup's polls are universally accepted as a major source of determining marketing approaches for everything from Politics to Sex.